

Regular Meeting of the Advisory Board of Recreation and Parks
Held at the Falls Church Community Center
223 Little Falls Street, Falls Church, Virginia 22046

Minutes
April 4, 2007

1. Call to Order

Mr. Mene called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Members present were Joyce Berg, Katherine Chandler, Gerard Mene, and Charley O'Hara. Staff present was Howard Herman, Director of Recreation, Daniel Schlitt, Senior Program Supervisor, and Linda Weikle, Senior Administrative Assistant. Vice Mayor Lindy Hockenberry was also present.

2. Receipt of Public Petitions and Board Member Petitions

Mr. Mene asked if there were any petitions from the public or board members. There were none.

3. Minutes

It was noted that the minutes needed to be corrected to reflect the closed session. Ms. Berg moved to approve the March 7, 2007 minutes as amended. Mr. O'Hara seconded the motion. Upon voice vote, the motion passed 3-0-1 (Ms. Chandler abstained).

4. Recreation Director's Report

Mr. Herman reported:

- The Easter Egg Hunt is planned for Saturday. If it snows, it will be held Monday afternoon.
- Art Show will be held the last weekend of the month. Dance recitals are scheduled for the last weekend in April and the first weekend in June.
- The Memorial Day Parade Grand Marshal will be John Gannon.
- Civil War Day is Saturday, May 19.
- The synthetic turf field at the high school is a great asset to the school. It is getting more use than predicted.
- Staff has made some minor modifications to the Field Use MOU regarding staffing and cross training of staff.

- The sod is down at the TJ field and is turning green. Softball fields have been graded, and the bases are in place. New benches and soccer goals have been ordered. It probably will be scheduled for use in early May.
- There is an administrative assistant position open in the department. Allie left April 13 to take a job at the Spy Museum.
- The summer Farmers' Market is full. One vendor did not return and staff is trying to make space for three new vendors. A board member suggested holding the market on Sundays with different vendors. There was also discussion of other locations.
- The July 4 fireworks will be set up at the far edge of the baseball field and the synthetic turf will be covered.

5. New Business

a. Big Chimneys Park Public Hearing

Mr. Mene opened the public hearing. Citizens present were Bernadette Fancuberta, 243 Gundry Dr., Pam Callison, 215 Gundry Dr., Nader Baroukh, 243 Gundry Dr., and Robert Hughes, 327 Gundry Dr. There was a discussion of the relationship between the proposed development and the creation of a master plan for the park. More picnic tables, grills, and swings were requested. It was noted that the zoning designation needs to be changed. Mr. Herman asked citizens to send their suggestions for the conceptual plan by April 20. A draft conceptual plan will be presented at the May 2 meeting. Staff will include a matted surface (like at Frady Park) that is handicapped accessible, preserving the trees, providing a good buffer between the park and City Center development, and adding color in the park.

6. Old Business

a. Budget

There will be a budget work session on April 5. There may be some discussion of the three CIP projects. There are two new positions proposed in the budget: program supervisor and maintenance worker for the parks. The new program supervisor will coordinate classes and the class brochures. There is increased work for the program supervisor who works on special events, with new events, improvements to current events, and seeking sponsorships for events. For the maintenance worker, there are 12 parks to maintain, implementation of the master plans for the parks, and TJ maintenance. Mr. Herman will be the General Manager of Community Services and the Director of Recreation and Parks Division. There will be budget hearings on April 9 and 23, with adoption on the 23rd.

7. Other Business

There was no other business.

8. Adjournment

Mr. Mene moved to adjourn the meeting; Mr. O'Hara seconded the motion. Following a unanimous voice vote, Mr. Mene adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

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(Approved May 9, 2007)